

In re Patent Application of:
CHARBENEAU, MICHAEL P
Serial No. 10/677,935
Filed: OCTOBER 2, 2003

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-3 and add the following new claims:

4. (Currently Amended) A retaining device for use in a vehicle comprising:

a substantially flat body having an upper portion, a lower portion, and a medial portion, said body having a polygonal shape, a plurality of spaced apart apertures formed in the medial portion, a first plurality of passageways formed in the upper portion, and a second plurality of passageways formed in the lower portion; and

a first ~~pair of mounting members~~ member that matingly ~~engage~~ engages at least one of the first plurality of passageways, and a second ~~pair of mounting members~~ member that matingly ~~engage~~ engages at least one of the second plurality of passageways so that said body may be detachably mounted to a rear portion of a seat within the vehicle to allow at least one object to be retained on said body when mounted;

said first plurality of passageways and said second plurality of passageways having a substantially similar shape, and said first and second plurality of passageways having a shape substantially different from said plurality of spaced-apart apertures.

5. (Original) A retaining device according to Claim 4 wherein each of said plurality of apertures is a C-

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shaped aperture.

6. (Currently Amended) A retaining device according to Claim 5 wherein each one of said plurality of C-shaped apertures defines an upwardly extending mounting member when said body is mounted to the rear portion of the seat within the vehicle, each of said upwardly extending mounting members for engaging handles of a shopping bag to thereby retain the shopping bag when said body is mounted within the vehicle.

7. (Original) A retaining device according to Claim 4 wherein the first plurality of passageways and the second plurality of passageways are longitudinal passageways.

8. (Original) A retaining device according to Claim 4 wherein the polygonal shape of said body is a substantially octagonal shape.

9. (Original) A retaining device according to Claim 4 further comprising advertising indicia positioned on said body.

10. (Currently Amended) A retaining device according to Claim 4 wherein said first and second ~~pairs of~~ mounting members are first and second ~~pairs of~~ mounting straps.

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11. (Original) A retaining device according to Claim 10 wherein said body is moveable between a mounted position and a dismounted position.

12. (Currently Amended) A retaining device according to Claim 11 wherein said body is detachably mounted to a the vehicle seat when in the mounted position by engaging said first and second ~~pairs of~~ mounting straps with a portion of the vehicle seat.

13. (Currently Amended) A retaining device for use in a vehicle comprising:

a substantially flat body having ~~an arcuate~~ a polygonal shape, a plurality of spaced-apart C-shaped apertures formed therein; and

a plurality of mounting straps connected to said body for detachably mounting said body to a vehicle seat within the vehicle.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A retaining device according to Claim ~~14~~ 13 wherein each ~~one~~ of ~~said~~ the plurality of C-shaped apertures defines an upwardly extending mounting member when said body is mounted to the vehicle seat within the vehicle, ~~said~~ each of the upwardly extending mounting ~~member~~ members for engaging handles of a at least one

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shopping bag to ~~thereby~~ retain the at least one shopping bag adjacent said body.

16. (Original) A retaining device according to Claim 13 further comprising advertising indicia positioned on said body.

17. (Original) A retaining device according to Claim 13 wherein said body has a plurality of longitudinal passageways formed therein so that said plurality of mounting straps may matingly engage said body to thereby detachably mount said body to the vehicle seat of the vehicle.

18. Cancelled.

19. Cancelled.

20. Cancelled.

21. Cancelled.

22. Cancelled.

23. Cancelled.